

The Genus *Rhopalimorpha* Dallas (Heteroptera, Pentatomidae.)

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The original description of the genus *Rhopalimorpha* Dallas is included in a key in a list of Hemipterous insects in the British Museum (Dallas, 1851). Because it is inadequate as a generic description it has been thought advisable to redescribe this genus. Similarly, White's description (1851) of *R. obscura* is now of little value and this species has been redescribed. *R. lineolaris* Pendergrast, the other species recorded from New Zealand, has been described in a previous paper (1950) and identified material of both species is in the collection of the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

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FAMILY PENTATOMIDAE.

SUB-FAMILY ACANTHOSOMATINAE.

Genus **RHOPALIMORPHA** Dallas, 1851.

Rhopalomorpha Mayr, 1866.

Body elongate oval; thorax and anterior half of abdomen of uniform depth; angle between scutellum and pronotum surfaces almost straight, typical "hunched" appearance of sub-family lacking. Head wide, more than half greatest pronotum width; length equalling or slightly exceeding that of pronotum; head width: length:: about 1.25; tylus conspicuous, rounded, projecting beyond juga; maxillary plate region with protuberance in front of antennal base; rostrum never reaching beyond intermediate coxae. Antennae about half body-length; fifth segment slightly longer than fourth, second equalling or slightly exceeding third; first segment reaching or barely surpassing apex of head. Pronotum flat, trapeziform, narrow; pronotum width: body length:: 0.4; lateral margins straight; anterior angles blunt, without terminal papilla; lateral angles not produced. Mesothoracic carina small, ridge-like. Hind femur length: body-length:: about 0.27. Abdomen slender, greatest width not exceeding half body-length; without median

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ventral keel; ventral spine small, reaching scarcely beyond hind coxae; sixth sternum in female with pair of dark circular setose areas, absent on the seventh; in male genital chamber opens caudad.

Type: *Rhopalimorpha obscura* White, in the British Museum (Natural History).

1. **Rhopalimorpha obscura** A. White, 1851.

Rhopalimorpha similis Mayr, 1864.

Rhopalomorpha similis Mayr, 1866.

Rhombocoris similis (Mayr) Walker, 1867.

Rhopalimorpha ignota Hutton, 1898.

Length: Female, 7.5-9.5 mm. Male, 7.0-8.5 mm.

General Colour: Dorsally usually ochreous, sometimes olivaceous, hemielytra darker. Ventrally much lighter except as detailed. Male usually distinctly green.

Head: Dorsally coarsely punctured with black including mid-line; clefts bordering tylus sometimes marked with black. Lateral margins slightly raised. Ventrally glabrous except for pubescent gula and few conspicuous punctures on genae. In front of antennal base maxillary plate with inconspicuous rounded protuberance. Rostrum not reaching intermediate coxae. Second segment of antenna longer than third (1.2 : 1.0), greater parts of fourth and fifth segments dark brown. Eyes dark red to purple; ocelli red.

Thorax: Pronotum and scutellum densely punctured except on callus areas. Mid-line sometimes marked by lighter stripe obscured by punctuation; stripe more obvious on scutellum, especially apically. Scutellum apex acute. Hemielytron narrow, corium dark brown, densely punctured, membrane buff, veins brown. Scent gland orifice bordered above by less conspicuous plate than in *lineolaris*. Mesothoracic carina very small, ridge-like. Femora without obvious punctuation.

Abdomen: Slender; connexivum somewhat developed, without dark markings, partly projecting laterad of hemielytron. Venter dark in mid-line; ventral spine small, slender, rarely extending cephalad of hind coxae.

Female: Sixth sternum with pair of rather inconspicuous dark circular setose areas. Valvifers somewhat triangular, mesial margins raised. Seventh sternum produced posteriorly into sharp median keel.

Male: Pygophor with strongly convex ventral posterior margin bearing two patches of long bristles. Claspers partially hooked, blunt.

Type: In the British Museum (Natural History).

2. **Rhopalimorpha humeralis** Walker, 1867.

Described from Queensland, Australia.

3. **Rhopalimorpha lineolaris** Pendergrast, 1950.

Labels for the following figures in the writer's 1950 paper should read as follows:—

Fig. 2. *Rhopalimorpha lineolaris* sp. nov. Apex of scutellum.

Fig. 3. *Rhopalimorpha lineolaris* sp. nov. Male. Ventral view posterior abdominal segments.

Fig. 4. *Rhopalimorpha lineolaris* sp. nov. Female. Ventral view posterior abdominal segments.

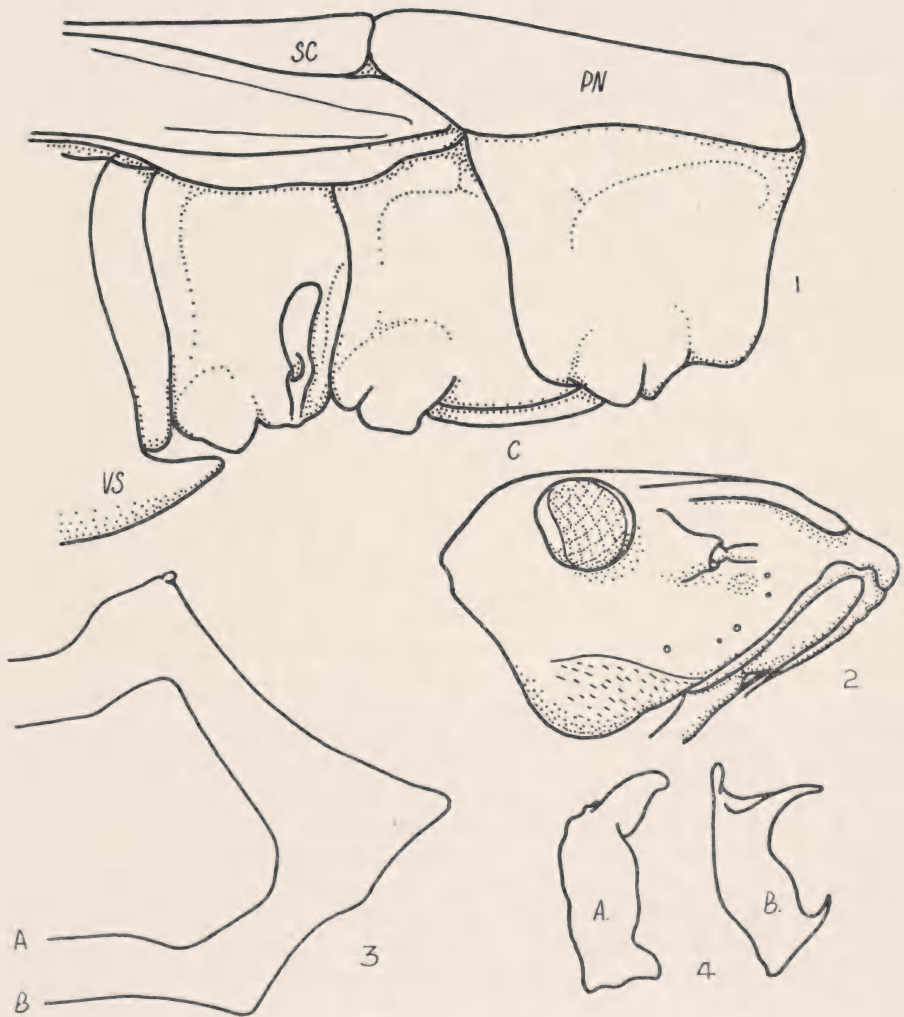


Fig. 1. *Rhopalimorpha obscura* White. Lateral view thorax after removal of coxae. C, Mesothoracic carina: PN, Pronotum: SC, Scutellum: VS, Ventral spine.

Fig. 2. *Rhopalimorpha obscura* White. Lateral view head.

Fig. 3. Comparison of outlines of right halves of pronota of: A, *Rhopalimorpha obscura* White, and B, *Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale* (L.).

Fig. 4. Claspers. A, *Rhopalimorpha obscura* White: B, *Rhopalimorpha lineolaris* Pendergrast.

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